

PATRIOT

439TH AIRLIFT WING • AIR FORCE RESERVE • WESTOVER ARB

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 1999

C-5 aircrew

Pilots:

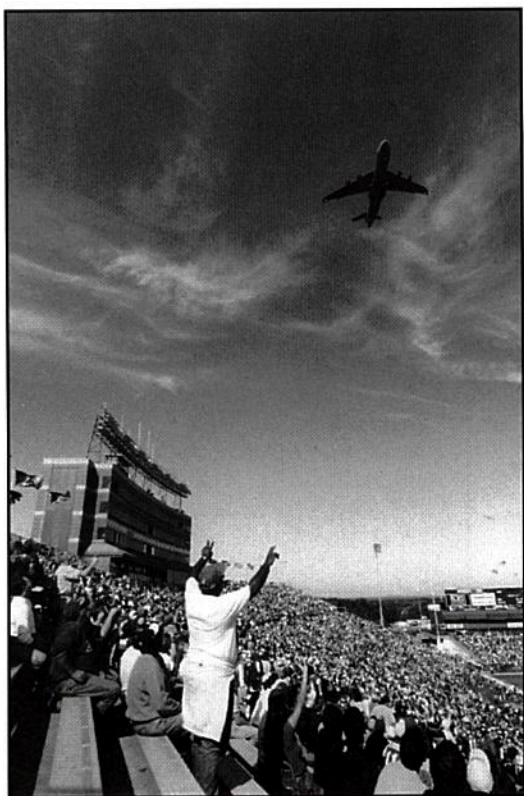
Lt. Col. Sandy Whittier
Capt. Ken Parsons

Flight engineers:

MSgt. Henry Olearcek
TSgt. Richard Jedrey
TSgt. Dan Ejdy
TSgt. Mike Corcoran
SSgt. Bob Serricchio

Loadmaster:

SMSgt. Garth Parker



PATRIOTIC SALUTE

PASSING SHOTS — Westover's Honor Guard posts the colors (top photo) during the National Anthem at pre-game ceremonies at Foxboro Stadium as (left) a Patriot Wing C-5 performs a fly-over of the stadium prior to a New England Patriots-Miami Dolphins game in September. Members of the honor guard are, from left, TSgt. Dan Witt; MSgt. Anita Mancini; TSgt. Miguel Colon; SSgt. Roy Willis and TSgt. Louisa Cabana. The fly-over was seen on national television.

The honor guard photo is courtesy of the New England Patriots. The fly-over was taken by Maj. Rick Tilburg.

Thanks and happy holidays!

My, how time flies! I have been your commander for three-quarters of a year now and I can't believe how fast the time has flown by. I have tried to get out there and meet a lot of you. I know there are more folks to meet and I will make it my resolution to accomplish this. We have had to adapt to a lot of change this year in the way we do business. Aircraft avionics changes, privatization, and Air Expeditionary Forces are just a few. We have done well!

We continue to get the mission accomplished and we do it **safely**. It has not been easy and I know that many of you have had personal losses this year. I want to thank all of you for your mission focus and personal flexibility in adapting and coping to these changes.

As we get set for next year I want to share with you how I see the priorities for our organization. They are: *readiness, recruiting and retention, one standard, infrastructure improvement, and quality of life improvement*. These priorities will remain at the forefront of how we do business as we continue to adapt to changes in the next decade. I will have more to say on them as the year progresses.

As we prepared for the holidays at the beginning of the 1990s we were on the verge of war and had many people deployed overseas. A decade later we are at peace but we have people deployed overseas from our Aerial Port, Aeromedical Evacuation and Services squadrons. They are in our thoughts during this season.

Bottom line is that you are doing well and every one is a necessary part of keeping Westover ready. Enjoy this holiday season and be safe; we need you back. You have welcomed my family and I to the Westover family and we appreciate that very much. On behalf of Mary Jo, myself and our sons, Marty and Matthew, we wish your family a safe, happy and holy holiday.

by Col. Martin M. Mazick
439th AW Commander

Commentary

Briefs

Chiefs again offering Christmas ornaments

The Westover Chiefs' Council is again offering their traditional Christmas ornaments. This year's edition features the image of a C-5 Galaxy, leaving a legacy from 1999 on one side, with the wing's emblem surrounded by the Air Force core values on the opposite side.

Ornaments are available from CMSgt. George Kudka at Ext. 2654, CMSgt. Bill Currier at Ext. 3521 or CMSgt. Kathy Wood at Ext. 2876. The ornaments sell for \$5 each.

Family Readiness planning home mortgage workshops

Westover's Family Readiness Center will sponsor three Home Mortgage Workshops at their office located at 22-24 Seawolf Ave. Topics of discussion will include VA loans, first-time buyers, FHAs, construction loans and assumable VA mortgages.

Workshops are offered to Westover civilians as well as reservists.

Workshops will be conducted:
Dec. 1: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.;
Jan. 8: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.;
Jan. 13: 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

All attendees will receive a free Consolidated Credit Report, which is valued at \$50. Seats are limited. Reservations can be made by calling 557-3024. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Air Force radio news available toll free

Air Force Radio is a five-minute weekday program that allows access to timely and topical information for and about the Air Force community. It is available toll-free at 1-877-AFRADIO (237-2346), can be heard on Air Force Link at <http://www/af.mil/news/radio/>, and transmitted by satellite to Armed Forces Radio and Television Service outlets overseas.

Dec. UTA schedule
A UTA Dec. 4-5
B UTA Dec. 11-12

PATRIOT

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439th AW Commander

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Deputy NCOIC

MSGT. Tom Allocco

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SSgt. Charlie Cangemi

SSgt. Anne Kymalainen

SSgt. Andrew Reitano

AIC Amber Ryals

Unit of the month

Security Forces—'Foot soldiers of the Air Force'

WANTED: Highly motivated, intelligent, able-bodied individuals willing to work long hours – any shift – in all weather, sometimes living in field conditions. Must be fully qualified on M-16, M-20, M-60, M-249 and M-9 weapons. Must be able to perform air base defense and law enforcement procedures according to regulations. People skills a must. Security systems knowledge a plus. Worldwide travel opportunities. Apply with the 439th Security Forces Squadron, Westover ARB, Mass.

All 125 members of the 439th Security Forces Squadron meet the above qualifications – and then some. Their motto is: *Defensor Fortis*: (Defenders of the Force.)

Under the command of Maj. Mary Ann Lutz, the SFS are known as the "foot soldiers of the Air Force" providing air base ground defense. Their job, both at Westover, and around the world, is to provide installation and airfield security and law enforcement.

For mobility missions, the squadron can be tasked to form specialty teams, ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 48 hours. These teams include a command and control element trained to lead consolidated base defense with up to five 44-person flights.

The combat arms section of the squadron provides all weapons training for wing personnel, qualifying thousands each year on the M-16 rifle, M-203 grenade launcher, M-60 machine gun, M-249 squad automatic weapon and the M-9 handgun. This training is accomplished at the base firing range and with the firearms training simulator.

Westover is only one of two bases with Phoenix Raven positions assigned. The SFS has six "ravens", specially trained with stringent physical fitness requirements, to accompany Reserve aircraft to "hostile" areas or any airfield with no existing security personnel.

The entire unit maintains peak readiness through regular deployments and training exercises. According to SFS First Sergeant Kirk A. McGee, in the past six months, 25 squadron members have pulled 30-days tours supporting the continuing mission in Kuwait. They are assigned to provide security for Aerospace Expeditionary Force tasking, and routinely augment active duty forces with



manpower shortages.

This past year, SFS members participated in Phoenix Readiness at the Air Mobility Command's Warfare Center at Fort Dix, N.J. and Patriot Protector AFRC's Air Base defense training exercise. The ongoing exercises test security forces in realistic scenarios involving hundreds of players.

Like any job, security is not all action and drama. Part of the job is working the gate and providing control to restricted areas like the airfield. The squadron works in tandem with state and local police with arrest and prosecution of offenders apprehended on base property. They perform security checks on all base buildings, and respond to fire, burglary and medical alarms on base. They monitor all base traffic issues and also

staff the pass and identification section.

"Westover is like a small town with relatively few incidents," she said. "But each member has proven they can respond to any situation, whether it's a DUI, an intruder in the restricted area, protestors at the main gate, or anything else you can imagine."

The unit has 45 Air Reserve Technicians and an equal number of civil service security personnel to staff round-the-clock security shifts.

Lutz liberally praised her unit and emphasized the camaraderie. "I think they can do anything presented to them," she said.

Lutz summed up the unit with three words: *capable, willing and successful*.

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

CCAF adds to life's 'tool kit'

by MSgt. Sandi Michon

In November, the educational climate at Westover rose by 33 degrees.

Representing a 66 percent increase from 1998, 30 reservists earned Community College of the Air Force degrees — three members earning two degrees each.

Col. Martin M. Mazick, 439th AW commander, praised the graduates at a luncheon held Nov. 7 at the Consolidated Open Mess. He compared educational opportunities in the Air Force to building a tool kit. "While not a visible kit, when the need arises, you will have the tools required," he said.

Mazick praised the graduates, but also gave high grades to the education office staff for their proactive work assisting reservists with CCAF strategies.

TSgt. Lori Boucher, training and education technician, and one of the current CCAF graduates, reviewed all the CCAF records and tagged those within 10 credits of their degree. She then contacted each member, evaluated their progress and presented strategies to help them complete the degree.

SSgt. Sandra Mundt, career enhancement apprentice, received her CCAF degree in electronic system technology. Speaking of her accomplishment and the ceremony, she said with a grin, "It took me over 10 years; my PME course 6 credits put me over the top. I finally did it!"

CMSgt. Kathy Wood's challenge was her fear of math. For 6 years her degree lacked only math credits. A fellow reservist, TSgt. Tim Day from AGS (also a CCAF grad) tutored Wood and five others over a four-month period on his own time. According to Wood, "If it wasn't for Tim's patient tutoring and Lori's support I'd still be without my degree. It's never too late to accomplish a goal."

Depending on the degree requirements left, remaining credits can often be accomplished through CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) tests, DANTES, PME or traditional college courses. "People don't realize

how close they are to a degree," said Boucher. Since Westover became an official test center for CLEP and DANTES, she said it has really paid off for reservists, who can now test, for free, courses that would take significant time and money accomplished the traditional way. Boucher also wants reservists to know about available financial college aid.

The education office has been aggressive in getting the word out. They publish a monthly Training Gazette, and offer to do training symposiums for units.

Established in 1972, the CCAF program allows mission-related associates degrees for enlisted members. It is the largest multi-campus community, junior or technical college in the country.

To date, CCAF has awarded 166,000 degrees. As a quick comparison, in 1972, 14.5 percent active duty Air Force enlisted members had any college credits. Currently,



BRAVO! — Members of the 439th Airlift Wing at the CCAF graduation ceremony held on Nov. 7.

— photo by MSgt. Sandi Michon

92 percent of active duty enlisted members have some college credits or degree, with 32 percent of staff sergeants and above listing a CCAF degree.

"We plan to continue our aggressive approach, and if the numbers continue to rise, the graduation luncheon will be an annual event," said Maj. Tom Schweicheimer, base education officer.

According to Boucher, CCAF requires 64 credits, and basic training, technical schools, and PME translate into credits. Up to 30 credits can be obtained through CLEP testing — all free as a reservist perk. (Testing is also free for reservist's spouse.)

For more information, contact the training and education office staff at Ext. 2042.



Community College of the Air Force graduation

Chief Master Sergeant

Kathleen M. Wood

Senior Master Sergeant

Benedict B. Foam Jr.
Joseph G. Chaloux

Master Sergeant

Bruce E. O'Keefe

Technical Sergeant

Lori D. Boucher
Richard D. Bready Jr.
Jeffrey M. Cahill
Frederick J. Chaison III
Michael J. Corcoran (2)*
Timothy A. Day
Julianna M. Glahn (2)*
Francis X. Kelly (2)*
Donald R. Martel
Kevin R. Mattoon
Joseph T. Quigley
Michael Sutton

Staff Sergeant

Laurie A. Briggs
Patrick K. Campbell
Kevin P. Chen
Paul L. Cloutier Jr.
Timothy M. Cullen
Dirk Diviney
Scott A. Ellis
David Hawksley
David P. King
Todd J. Lasky
Sandra C. Mundt
Shawn M. Quigley
Peter N. Rogers

Senior Airmen

Joseph J. Fernandez

* Indicates individuals received two CCAF degrees at ceremony.

Reservist tracks down grandfather's WWI medals

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

Irish immigrant and World War I doughboy Pvt. James M. Bowler started a family tradition of service to country, which his grandson and namesake, SSgt. James M. Bowler will not allow to fade away.

The younger Bowler, a 42nd APS transportation specialist, has the stories he heard from his late grandfather of flying shells, terror and trenches experienced by American soldiers in France in 1917-18. But until recently, the Bowler family had lost the wartime medals that serve as visible thanks of a grateful nation.

After a campaign of letter writing to military record centers, and through the intervention of Senator John F. Kerry, Pvt. Bowler's descendants gathered at the North Hampton VA last Veterans Day to accept the medals he earned in the trenches. The Veterans Day presentation included the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster and the World War I Victory Medal with battle clasps earned at Chateau-Thierry, St. Mihiel, the Meuse-Argonne, Toul and other combat sectors.

"My grandfather served in the infantry. I remember his stories about how terrifying it was in the trenches. He was gassed, wounded in the face and hip by shrapnel and suffered shell shock. The family has the diary he kept in Gaelic on the ship coming back, and you can read how he suffered," SSgt. Bowler said.

After service in France, Pvt. Bowler returned home to Holyoke and married the former Helen Sullivan, also a native of Ireland's County Kerry. They raised 10 children, and sent sons to three wars.

SSgt. Bowler carried on a letter writing effort for more than three years because military service is at the core of his family's heritage.

"My father, Daniel, served in the Air Force in the 1950s and is a retired Air National Guard master sergeant. My father's oldest brother, James, was a naval aviator in World War II and another brother, Joseph, served as a World War II sailor and Korean War Marine lieutenant. The youngest of the 10 children, George, served in the Air Force during the Vietnam War," said SSgt. Bowler. He served four years of active duty before coming to Westover seven years ago.

The senior Bowler lived to 79 before passing away in 1971. At some point in the passage of time, his medals were lost to his family.

In a letter earlier this year to Senator Kerry, SSgt. Bowler expressed what the loss of the medals meant to the family as his father and uncles grew older.

"Every Memorial Day that has since passed I have hoped to present these medals to my father and his remaining siblings. Every year that passes this Irish immigrant family started by my grandfather grows smaller," he said.

When Pvt. Bowler was mustered out at Fort Devens, under "Remarks" on his enlistment record the Army wrote simply "Service Honest and Faithful." Thanks to his grandson's persistence, the visible thanks bestowed by a grateful nation have been restored to Bowler's Irish immigrant family.

C-5 wows foreign fifth graders



FLYING EMBASSY – No matter where Westover C-5s travel in the world, they attract big attention. On a recent stop in Frankfurt, Germany, 337th Airlift Squadron crewmembers conducted a Galaxy tour for fifth graders from Halvorsen-Tunner Elementary School on the ramp at Rhein-Main Air Base. The school is named for two heroes of the Berlin Airlift, Gail Halvorsen, the "Candy Bomber" who flew out of Westover in the 40's, and Gen. William H. Tunner, who planned the massive airlift during the height of the Cold War. Crewmembers taking part in the tour were MSgt. Nelson Serrao, Maj. Jim Harris, MSgt. Don DiVincenzo, MSgt. Paul Benson and MSgt. Glenn Flynn. The C-5 was returning from a mission in support of Southern Watch in Kuwait.

— photo by SSgt. Sean Godley
439th AW Historian

Prime Beefers com



◄ **THE OXYGEN MASK** — Capt. Paul E. Goliber from the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron dons breathing apparatus, getting familiar with the equipment and the people that make up one of the of CES.

GAME PLAN — Site Safety Officer MSgt. Nick Demko gives his team some last minute instruction before the live fire scenario begins. ▼



◄ **WORKING UNDER PRESSURE** — The Westover fire truck regulates the water flow coming from the hydrant to the firefighter's hoses.

The exercise photographed occurred on Nov. 7. The Springfield Fire Training Center is used by local firefighting units including the Chicopee Fire Department and Holyoke Fire Department.

— photos by MSgt. W.C.Pope

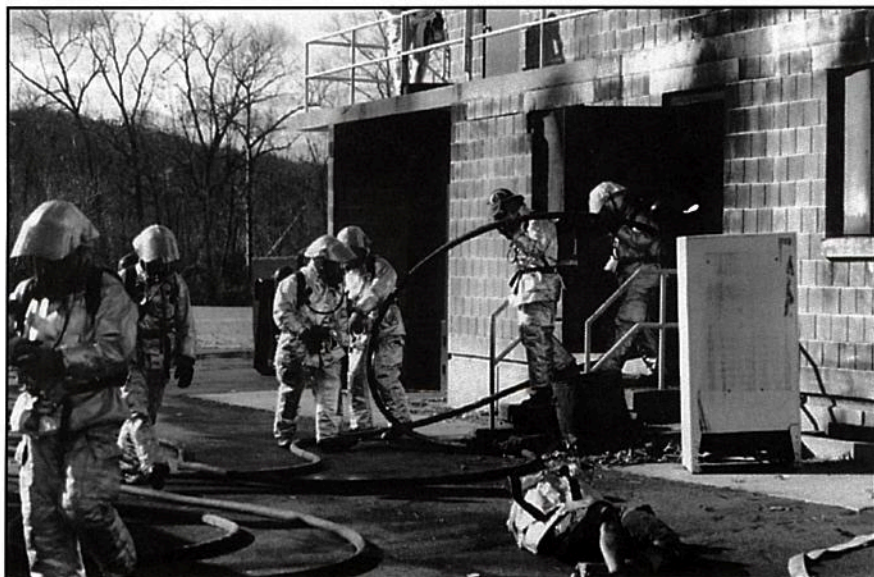
under fire at Springfield center

► **SAFETY FIRST** — SSgt. Tyler Bergemann and SSgt. Russell Atkinson were part of the safety team standing by just in case the fire got out of control.

▼ **HEAVY LOAD** — With thirty pounds of equipment on their backs the firefighters enter the burning structure with a heavy hose in hand and three stories of stairs awaiting them. Their mission: locate victims, put out the fire, and come out safely — in the least amount of time.



► **FINISHING UP** — Westover reservists within moments have the fire under control and begin pulling the hoses from the building. This training is a yearly requirement for certification. They also require live fire on an aircraft which they get on their annual tours, which this year will be at Lakenheath AB in England.



Westover bowling center goes cosmic

by MSgt. Tom Allocco

When you bowl at the Westover Bowling Center, leave your polyester and stubby pencils at home, but bring a sense of adventure. The Center has just launched a new cosmic bowling program of laser lights and club music that takes the game to a whole new level of entertainment.

This is definitely not your father's game; this is bowling with attitude.

The Westover Bowling Center continues to offer traditional league and open bowling seven days a week. What's new is a program developed by Brunswick which is dubbed Cosmic Bowling for its visual and audio highlights that more closely resemble a nightclub than a traditional bowling center.

Cosmic Bowling is not a simple job of remodeling. The Center management invested \$186,000 on a sophisticated program, including a Brunswick Rock Works sound system and a light show designed to appeal even to the high-tech tastes of concert-going youngsters.

Cosmic Bowling starts when the fluorescent lights are turned down and the dimmed lanes are flooded with a visually stimulating display of laser, strobe and liquid lights. When the Center manager hits a switch, spigots send out a misty fog over the lanes that catches the lights. Flashing lights run up and down the gutters, liquid light floats on the walls and beams of light hang in the fog while the sound system turns up the volume on club and mainstream music. Even the bright, pastel Cosmic Bowling balls glow in the dark.

The ambience of a night at a concert includes colorful abstract backdrops, fast-paced graphics on the new scoring system and plans for carpeting that reflects black light.

"We've already had a couple children's parties and we've gotten a

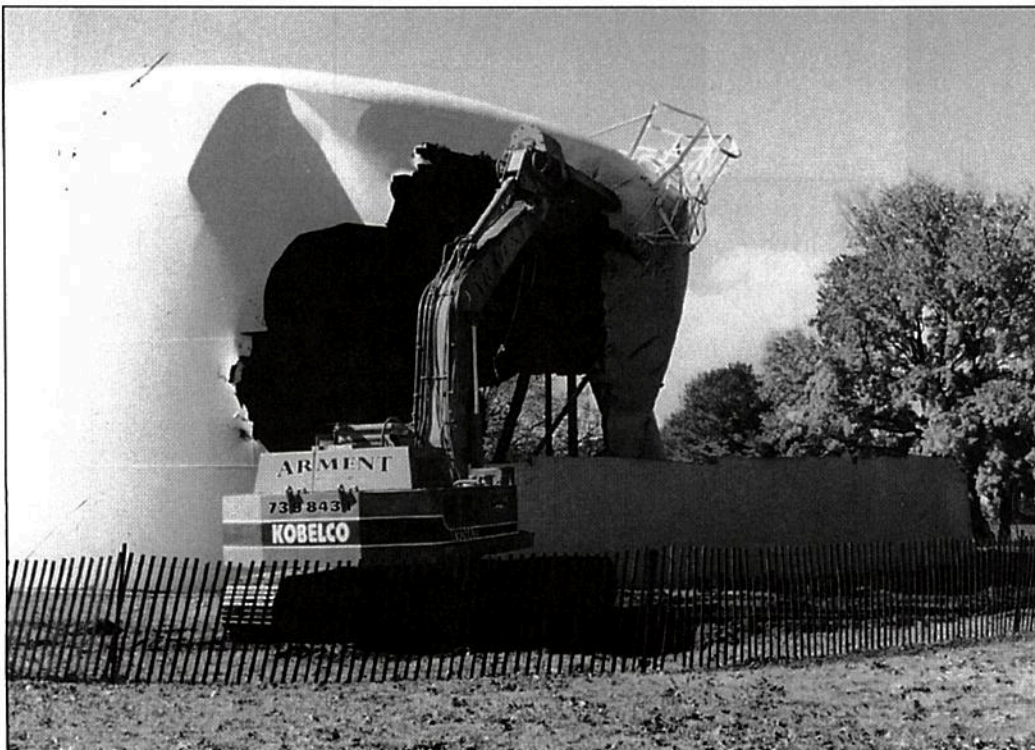
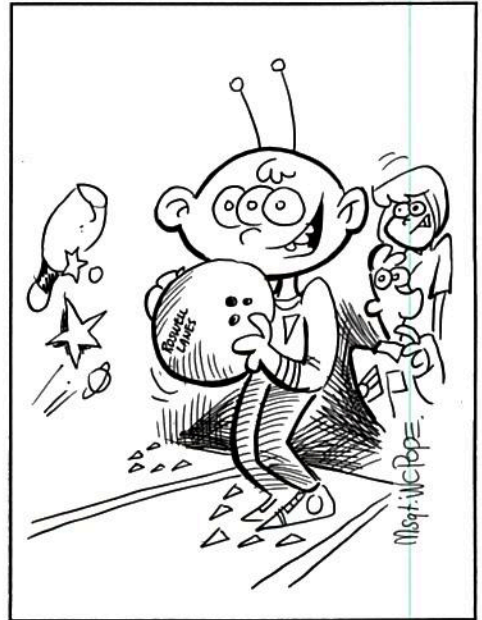
lot of positive comments from parents.

Cosmic Bowling is family oriented, and builds up some excitement while introducing kids to bowling," said Bowling Center manager Mike Ferguson.

"Kids really love it, but Cosmic Bowling is fun for all ages. I, myself, have more fun bowling now. When I'm bowling, I'm almost ready to dance," he said.

The Center offers 16 lanes of traditional and league bowling, starting at 11 a.m. on Monday through Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Cosmic Bowling kicks off from 9:30 p.m. to midnight on Fridays and 7:30 p.m. to midnight on Saturdays. The Center management offers Cosmic Bowling for children and adult private parties during the day.



TANK COMES

DOWN – Iron arms rip through the one-half million-gallon water tank located on Eagle Drive. The tank is being removed and the stainless steel shell removed for recycling. During the height of the Cold War, the tank held water that was used in Building P1900 (across the street) for developing of film taken by U-2 surveillance aircraft. The demolition project was completed by Arment Construction of Springfield. The area will be grassed over when the job is finished.

Maj. Rynecki is Wing Intelligence Officer

by Capt. Mike Franco

Maj. William C. Rynecki recently replaced Lt. Col. Robert Freniere as the 439th Airlift Wing's intelligence officer.

Prior to coming to Westover, Rynecki was assigned as a faculty member at Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., where he gave seminars in Joint Operations and World Strategic Environment.

A native of Connecticut, Rynecki began his Air Force career in 1976 as a broadcaster with Armed Forces Radio and Television Service in Alaska and Hawaii. In May 1981, he earned a commission through Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Hawaii.

He was a military intelligence analyst in his first two assignments that took him to Nebraska and Panama where he served with the 544th Intelligence Analysis Squadron, Offutt Air Force Base and the 24th Wing, Howard Air Force Base, respectively.

In 1986, he earned a master of arts in history with an emphasis in Latin American Studies from the Air Force Institute of Technology. From 1989 to 1994, he served as an assistant professor of history at the U. S. Air Force Academy.

Rynecki left active duty to serve as an

Individual Mobilization Augmentee at Headquarters, U. S. Southern Command in Panama and Miami. He later worked for the U. S. Military Group, Santiago, Chile, the Joint Interagency Task Force East, Key West, Fla., and the California Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement in San Francisco.

He attended ACSC in-residence from 1996 to 1997 and later served on the faculty.

Rynecki also spent a year serving a Rotary Fellowship to the University of Cape Town, South Africa and directorship for the Latin American Studies Group at the Air Force Academy.

He also was the recipient of the Ira C. Eaker award for his article in the Air Power Journal called "Transformational Leaders and Doctrine in an Age of Peace: Searching for a Tamer Billy Mitchell" while studying at ACSC.

After spending much of the last ten years of his career in staff positions, Rynecki says he's happy to back in an operational environment working with aircrew personnel and the flying mission.

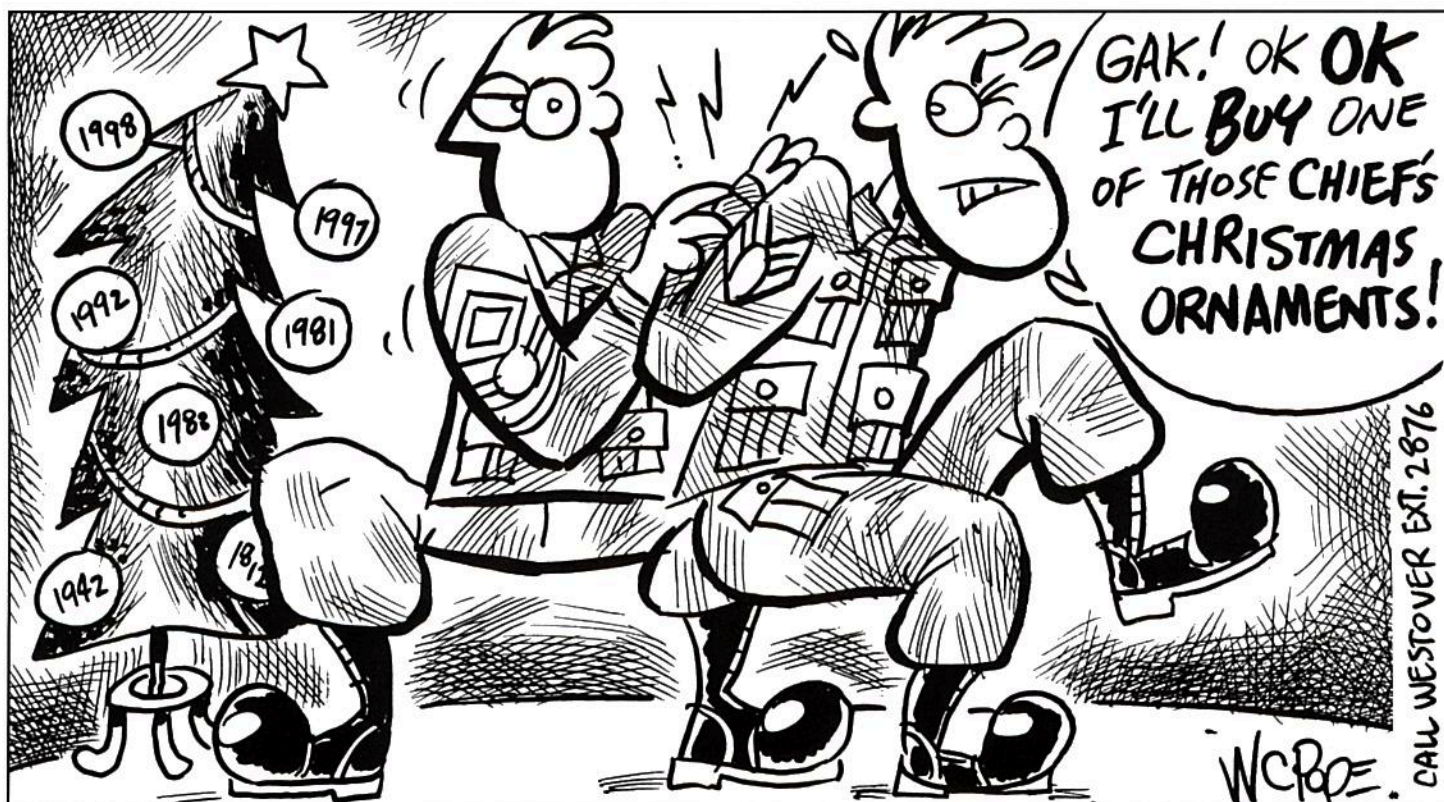
"This is 'where the rubber meets the



Maj. William C. Rynecki

road,'" Rynecki said. One of his goals is to bring together expertise from other units within the wing to better serve the mission.

Rynecki resides in South Hadley, Mass. He has two children, Ana and John, ages 10 and 9.



Bill ups Reserve pay, adds incentives

AIR FORCE NEWS SERVICE—Reservists can expect more pay and benefits as the result of the fiscal year 2000 National Defense Authorization Act that was signed into law by the President on Oct. 5.

The act grants all military personnel a 4.8 percent pay raise, effective Jan. 1, 2000, the largest pay hike since the military received 14.3 percent in 1981. In addition, more raises will take effect July 1, with a pay table reform that primarily targets mid-level NCOs and officers.

To help keep pace with inflation, basic military pay increases for FY 2001 through 2006 will be calculated using the annual Employment Cost Index plus .5 percent. This is intended to reduce the current 13.5 percent gap between military and private industry pay.

Among the measures aimed at recruiting and retention, is the offer of the Thrift Savings Plan for members of the active force and the Ready Reserve. Until now, this was available only to federal civilian employees, according to James A. Laudenslager, Westover's comptroller.

"Under the TSP program, military people can contribute up to five percent of their basic pay or reserve pay before taxes each month. They can also contribute special incentive pays, however the maximum annual contribution is \$10,000," he said.

Laudenslager added that although the government is not required to match service member's contributions, the secretary of defense has the option of offering matching contributions to military members in critically manned skills in exchange for a commitment to serve for six years.

"As with the civilian program," Laudenslager said, "all contributions are tax deferred."

Enlisted flight crewmembers that hold certain aviation specialty codes will get a pay boost if they qualify for career enlisted flyer incentive pay. The new incentive replaces hazardous duty incentive pay for those effected Oct. 1. These rates are based on years of aviation service. Pay for crewmembers range from \$150 a month for four or less years of service up to \$400 a month for more than 14 years. By comparison, hazardous duty incentive pay rates start at \$150 a month for E-1s to E-3s and go to \$240 for E-7s to E-9s.

Col. Dave McCarthy, 439th Operations Group commander, said to qualify for continuous pay, aircrew members must meet gates of aviation service.

"Crewmembers must be current and qualified for six of their first 10 years of flying service, nine of 15 years their second gate and 14 of 20 for their third gate," he explained.

Other benefits:

✓Starting Oct. 1, the maximum enlistment bonus for people entering the Selected Reserve climbs from \$5,000 to \$8,000 and no longer requires a minimum period of enlistment for prior-service people. The period a non-prior service person may be extended in the delayed entry program increases from 180 to 365 days.

✓Federal employees can now use military leave to perform inactive duty for training such as unit training assemblies. In the past, they could only use military leave for annual tours and other non-ITD tours of duty.

✓Reservists called to active duty for less than one year may not have to pay the deductible before TRICARE begins sharing the costs of medical care for them and their families. A provision of the defense bill allows the secretary of defense to waive the TRICARE deductible for members of the Reserve and National Guard who are called up for less than one year.

✓The FY 2000 bill expands eligibility for voluntary enrollment dental plans to certain members of the Ready Reserve. Reservists subject to involuntary recall would share premium costs with the government, and the remaining members of the Individual Ready Reserve would pay the full premium cost.

✓A provision of the bill authorizes giving a reservist lodging in kind for IDTs when transient government housing is not available. This option especially benefits individual mobilization augmentees and unit reservists when they travel to major metropolitan locations, where on-base lodging is difficult to obtain.

✓Another provision establishes a new type of duty for reservists to perform military funeral honors. Reservists earn retirement point credit and receive a \$50 stipend if the duty lasts at least two hours, plus they get travel entitlements if commuting more than 50 miles to perform this duty. They are also authorized medical care for injury or illness associated with this duty.

✓Next of kin may now request military funeral honors for deceased members or former members of the Selected Reserve.

✓Reservists will now be eligible to receive a flag, at no cost to the recipient, upon retirement.

✓Reservists with more than 15 but less than 20 years of service who have a physical disability that did not occur in the line of duty may now qualify for a disability retirement.

Chief's coin



The Westover Chief's Council is now selling a 'Westover Coin' that was designed by SMSgt. Chris Doyle. The coin, not to be confused with the Commander's Coin awarded for behavior above and beyond, costs \$5.00 and may be purchased from any chief master sergeant. Proceeds will support the chiefs' scholarship program. One side of the coin shows a C-5 flying over a map of New England while the reverse side depicts a musket leaning against a split rail fence. For further information, please call SMSgt. Kathy Wood at Ext. 2876.

✓Chaplains in the Reserve components of the Army and Air Force will be allowed to stay until the age of 67. Navy Reserve chaplains could already stay until age 67.

✓The mandatory removal date for Reserve component majors who are twice not selected for promotion, has been changed to the later of: the first day of the month after the month in which the officer completes 20 years of commissioned service; or the first day of the seventh month after the month in which the President approves the report of the board which considered the officer for the second time.

✓All benefits are listed on the Internet at: http://raweb.osd.mil/news/press_releases.NDAA.htm

(MSgt. Gordon Newell contributed to this article.)

Patriot People

Name: Derek Rogers
Rank: A1C
Age: 22
Address: Taunton, Mass.
Unit: 439th AGS
Position: Crew Chief
Civilian position: Construction Worker
Favorite food: Cheeseburgers
Years of service: Almost a year
Favorite sport: Football
Favorite hobby: Playing Football
Ideal vacation: On a boat or an island near Tahiti where no one could find me
Best way to relax: Sleep
Preferred entertainment: Shooting Pool
Favorite hero: Hank Aaron
Favorite music: Korn
Favorite movie: *Caddyshack*
Favorite aircraft: F-14 Tomcat
Pet peeve: "People who don't hit the reset button on the micro wave"
What I would do if I won \$1 million: I would not show up to work the next day, I'd call in sick.



A1C Derek Rogers

Wing Announces Quarterly Awards

A Quarterly Awards selection board was convened to select the outstanding Airman, NCO, Senior NCO, Company Grade Officer and Civilian Employees of the first quarter of Fiscal Year 00. Congratulations to the following individuals:

Airman of the Quarter:

SrA Scott J. Loughman, 439 AES

NCO of the Quarter:

TSgt. Edward M. Sierzego Jr., 439 MXS

Senior NCO of the Quarter:

SMSgt. Catherine J. Skalecki, 439 AES

Officer of the Quarter:

Capt. Lydia M. Todd, 439 ASTS

Civilian of the Quarter:

Mary Ann Syriac, 439 AW

Supervisor of the Quarter:

Kim Covey, 439 AW

Patriot Praises

Promotions

SMSgt. Loughnane, Dennis M.
 MSgt. Cronin, James P.
 MSgt. Filkins, Marcus S.
 MSgt. Fredette, Robert W.
 MSgt. Hoyt, Scott A.
 MSgt. Santoro, Nicholas J.
 TSgt. Cabana, Luisa V.
 TSgt. Creager, Janet M.
 TSgt. Ferreira, Charles A.
 TSgt. Kudron, Michael G.
 TSgt. Meyer, James E.
 TSgt. Munley, Timothy P.
 TSgt. Perreault, Stephen A.
 TSgt. Romprey, John C.
 TSgt. Scott-Smith, Shari C.
 TSgt. Sullivan, Daniel G.
 TSgt. Whalen, Joseph M.
 SSgt. Bosch, Debra
 SSgt. Burr, Adam J.

SSgt. Coviello, Edward J.
 SSgt. Dupuis, Jim L.
 SSgt. Farrell, Susan A.
 SSgt. Kinoyan, Steven A., Jr.
 SSgt. Lopez, Clara Y.
 SSgt. Manning, Michael D.
 SSgt. Marsh, William L.
 SSgt. Marsteller, Natasha
 SSgt. Newhart, Shane L.
 SSgt. Thayer, Aaron
 SrA. Beaudoin, Scott M.
 SrA. Chapdelaine, Kimberly M.
 SrA. Schultz, Jason K.
 A1C Bailey, Michael J.
 A1C Foti, Susan M.
 A1C Marini, Jeffrey C.

Reenlistments

SMSgt. Goldberg, Michael L.
 SMSgt. Walker, Jeffrey C.

MSgt. Thorne, William, S. I.
 TSgt. Batey, Deborah A.
 TSgt. Bodley, Keith A.
 TSgt. Brodeur, Paul J.
 TSgt. Devane, Thomas G.
 TSgt. Marowski, Kenneth J.
 TSgt. Taylor, Robert J.
 SSgt. Allen, Steven P.
 SSgt. Barklow, Richard H.
 SSgt. Charity, Jennifer N.
 SSgt. Drury, Jane M.

Retirements

TSgt. Kent, Lawrence G.

Awards and Decorations

Meritorious Service Medal

Capt. Lawrence K. Josiah 439 AW/JA
 MSgt. Ricky A. Smasal 439 AGS

Air Force Commendation Medal

MSgt. Lana L. Lue** 439 LSS
 TSgt. Mary E. Bieri 439 LSS
 TSgt. Arthur B. Roueche** 439 LSS
 SSgt. Charles S. Anderson 439 CES
 SSgt. Tyler H. Bergemann 439 CES
 SSgt. Joshua O. Lambert 439 LSS
 SSgt. Robert Luby 439 LSS

Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt. Byron T. Chaples, Jr.*** 439 CS
 TSgt. David P. Gubber**** 439 LSS
 TSgt. Richard T. Nii 439 LSS
 TSgt. David A. Wells 439 CES
 SSgt. Bonnie C. Bell*** 439 CS
 SSgt. Bruce B. Buechele 439 CES

**second award

***third award

****fourth award

Commerce '99 aids local area

Article and photo by MSgt. W.C.Pope

Westover's largest hangar was alive with the hustle and bustle of Commerce '99 on Nov. 4 with an estimated 5,000 people attending the business-to-business trade show held here every year.

With 217 vendors in attendance, the goal is to emphasize and promote local businesses.

The event kicked off at 8 a.m. with a breakfast for 480 attendees. Col. Martin M. Mazick, commander 439th Airlift Wing, and other local dignitaries spoke and gave praises



WARE-HOUSE — Local businesses, represented by 217 vendors, showcased their wares at Commerce '99 held in the base pull-through hangar on Nov. 4.

Westover honors veterans



VETERANS HONORED — Members of the base took part in a Veteran's Day ceremony honoring those who served in the 439th Airlift Wing and all branches of the military. Maj. Vito Addabo and MSgt. Bill Pope place the wreath at the 439th AW memorial while 1st. Lt. William Wiecher gives the benediction.

— photo by MSgt. Sandi Michon

to the organizers of the event; the Chamber of Commerce from both Chicopee and Greater Holyoke.

After a motivational speech the show officially kicked into high gear as vendors talked up their businesses and gave away free promotional items displaying their logos. The show ended at 5:30 p.m. with the

last of the business cards exchanged and the goody bags full.

"This is our ninth year, each time it's gotten bigger and better," said Doris Ransford president of the Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce. "We've already started planning a bigger and better Commerce 2000."

PATRIOT

PATRIOT online: <http://www.AFRC.AF.MIL/UNITS/439AW/Default.html>



Published monthly for Patriots like TSgt. Lisa Spence, of Bloomfield, Conn., and 2,396 members of the 439th AW at Westover ARB, and geographically separated units.

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